



Ohio Union Council

Meeting Minutes

May 9, 2012 – Barbie Tootle Room, Ohio Union

Present: Tim Collins (Chair), Matt Couch (Ex-Officio, Ohio Union Director of Student Activities & Orientation), Eve Esch (Ex-Officio, Director of Ohio Union Events), Carrie Miller (Ohio Union Associate Director of Major Campus Events), Naomi David (USG), Ashley Walley (for Katie Dean Williams - Graduate Administrative Associate Student Employee), Katie Krajny (Ex-Officio, Advisor to Ohio Union Activities Board), Mia Grube (Ex-Officio, 12-13 President of Ohio Union Activities Board), Felix Alonso (Student Life Staff), Chuck Claibourne (Alumna), Kate Christobek (Community/Supporter), Brad Myers (At-Large), Kevin Petrilla (USAC Rep), Ann Kneidinger-Flaherty (Parent), Maggie Germain (IPC), John Merrill (Faculty Rep), Jon Elder (for Bryan Ashton), Dan Huffman, Rob Siston (Faculty Rep), and Evan S (USG)

I. Welcome

Introductions and responses to the question – “What are your Memorial Day Weekend Plans?”

II. Directors' Reports

- a. Student Activities & Orientation Director's Report from Matt Couch
 - Annual Leadership Awards Celebration is tomorrow, May 11, recognizing individual students, student groups, and advisors from across campus for their achievements this year.
 - We are in the midst of wrapping up Spring Quarter and continuing to plan for Fall Semester and Welcome Week.
 - New Student Government Leaders have been chosen:
 - o USG - Taylor Stepp and Kevin Arndt/ John Elder as Speaker of the Senate
 - o CGS- Alan Cochran and Ally Stern
 - o IPC- Megan Conroy and Drew Price
 - Matt shared the Student Activities organization's Immersion Project which includes rounds with a Resident Advisor, Student Group meeting for one the staff don't advise, ride a campus bus, and studying/sitting in a campus library. It's been very beneficial processing our observations as a staff.
 - Commencement is quickly approaching – The Student Speaker at the Candlelight Eve Ceremony is Lindsey Seitz
- b. Ohio Union Events Director's Report from Eve Esch
 - This is the time of year for banquets, awards, and inductions with 2557 events for the month of April (most in a month ever!). 5% of the events are non-university clients and 85% are events from student groups or student activities staff
 - According to the people counters, there were 209,838 visitors in the building in April (about 7,000 a day)
 - The Ohio Union has also hosted many political/media-related events including the television program “Meet The Press”
- c. Business & Finance Director's Report from Dan Huffman
 - Dan shared the year to date budget overview.

IV. Subcommittee Reports

a. Events

- The committee heard progress reports from Best Day of Your Life (event focused on mental health). They are also in the progress of creating a Signature Events application for next year.

b. Policy

- The council heard the First Read for new policy for Trash & Recycling
- Refer to Section II in the Ohio Union Operating Manual regarding the Event Services Reservation Policy Motion to approve changes made by Chuck, seconded by Naomi passed unanimously.
- Policy committee also brought recommended changes to the Lease Agreement for Office Space in the Center for Student Leadership & Service.
 - The official name should be changed to "Keith B. Key Center for Student Leadership & Service" due to the naming gift by Keith B. Key
 - The Council suggested to add a note that the lease can be terminated immediately and damages.
 - For Item #14, the Policy Committee suggested changing the language so that groups are "encouraged to plan community building events" rather than being required to do so.
 - The Policy Subcommittee will revisit these suggested changes and bring back to full council at the June Meeting.

c. Budget & Finance

- Subcommittee continued conversation about Station 88, discussing...
 - Ideas to get a display case, put a photo booth or activity to draw people around the corner to the store
 - Signage to make it clearer what's down that hallway – maybe improve NE Entrance signage?
 - The name "Station 88" doesn't really describe what it provides.
 - Core customers – Although we would like the core customer to be students, it's not - 80% are non-students. Narrowing down their focus.
 - Ideas to get more business including a case competition with the Fisher College of Business and care packages through University Residences & Dining Services
 - Add an advertisement in materials from parent & Family Relations and Summer Orientation

III. Ohio Union Activities Board Update

- Mia Grube, incoming President for OUAB, presented the annual report, sharing event numbers, membership demographics, and budget information.

V. New Business

- Signature Events Application Review
 - Tim shared the document
 - This fall, the review will occur where current groups are reviewed and current
 - Ideas from the group:
 - 1) Form should be similar in format and questions as the CSA programming funds form.
 - 2) Important to focus on the diversity of events – despite smaller attendance. Perhaps a statement valuing diversity should be included on application for potential applicants.
 - 3) Change "what does it mean to be a signature event and why..." to "Why should your event be considered a signature event"?
 - 4) We should view application as a "weed-out" form and make it more straight-forward, rather than multiple essays.

- 5) Make sure to include presentation criteria (powerpoint, videos, timeframe) when inviting groups to present.
 - 6) Suggestion to cut down the following questions: "How do you plan on evaluating your program?" and "How will you evaluate the success of the program?"
 - 7) Who sits on the review committee?
- Student Organization Meeting Space – moved until June
 - At the next meeting, there may be some changes to the structure of the Ohio Union Council as well as elections for the new chair.

VI. Future Meetings

- Final meeting of the year will be on Thursday, June 7, 5:30pm – Barbie Tootle Room

VIII. Announcements

None